

Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 IO-14 SCCT-02 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03

SS-20 RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /105 W

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R 180920Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3422

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 8875

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ID

SUBJ: STATUS OF ADNAN BUYUNG NASUTION

REF: JAKARTA 7972

1. SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO COLLEAGUE OF ADNAN BUYUNG NASUTION, GOI CANNOT PROVE CONSPIRACY CHARGE AGAINST NASUTION BUT FEELS IT HAS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT GENERAL SUBVERSION CHARGE. NASUTION HAS REPORTEDLY AGREED TO EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY HE WOULD BE RELEASED AND GO OVERSEAS WITH RIGHT OF RETURN AFTER PERIOD OF TIME. GOI APPARENTLY IS MAKING EFFORTS TO CLEAR UP JANUARY DETAINEE QUESTION EITHER THROUGH TRAIL OR RELEASE OF THOSE HELD. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED FROM COLLEAGUE OF NASUTION THAT NASUTION HAS GIVEN HIS CONSENT TO EFFORTS BY HIS WIFE AND VARIOUS FRIENDS TO NEGOTIATE A DEAL WITH GOI WHEREBY NASUTION MIGHT BE RELEASED FROM DETENTION AND GO OVERSEAS FOR PERIOD OF A YEAR OR SO. NASUTION REPORTEDLY IS DEMANDING AS CONDITION OF HIS AGREEMENT THAT HE BE GIVEN GUARANTEE OF HIS RIGHT TO RETURN AND THAT HE NOT BE REQUIRED TO SIGN ANY PLEDGE OF SILENCE

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REGARDING HIS ARREST. NASUTION HAD REPORTEDLY WRITTEN

LETTERS RECENTLY TO FRIENDS OVERSEAS REQUESTING THAT THEY GIVE PUBLICITY TO HIS CASE IN HOPES OF PRESSURING, OR AT LEAST EMBARRASSING, GOI. THESE EFFORTS REPORTEDLY NOW BEING CALLED OFF PENDING RESULTS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

3. NASUTION'S COLLEAGUE SAYS THAT NASUTION HAS BEEN TOLD BY GOI INTERROGATORS THAT THEY HAVE NO GROUNDS FOR CONSPIRACY CHARGE IN CONNECTION WITH JAN 15 RIOTS, BUT THEY CAN PRODUCE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT GENERAL SUBVERSION CHARGE UNDER 1963 LAW. NASUTION REPORTEDLY REFUSING TO COOPERATE WITH INTERROGATORS INVESTIGATING GENERAL CHARGES, AND IS INSISTING THAT HE BE RELEASED AND REARRESTED AND BE ALLOWED TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL AS CONDITION OF HIS COOPERATION IN ANY FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS.

4. NASUTION'S COLLEAGUE REPORTS NASUTION IS HOSPITALIZED AT PERTAMINA HOSPITAL (NOT FATMAWATI AS REPORTED REFTEL, WHICH WAS APPARENTLY ONLY A COVER STORY). NASUTION WILL SHORTLY BE MOVED TO AN ARMY HOSPITAL FOR FURTHER TREATMENT AND RECOVERY. PERTAMINA HOSPITAL IS PROBABLY BEST EQUIPPED MEDICAL FACILITY IN INDONESIA, AND NASUTION IS SAID TO BE RECEIVING EXCELLENT MEDICAL TREATMENT. NASUTION'S MEDICAL PROBLEM IS RELATED TO LONG-STANDING NERVE DISORDER AFFECTING HIS SHOULDER AND ARM, AND IS NOT THE RESULT OF DETENTION. COLLEAGUE SAYS NASUTION IS NOT FASTING BUT HAS ORDERED HIS FAMILY TO STOP SENDING HIM SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD BECAUSE FOOD WAS BEING CONSUMED BY HIS GUARDS AND NOT REACHING HIM. NASUTION'S WIFE STILL REPORTEDLY DENIED ACCESS TO HIM, BUT OTHER COLLEAGUES HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO MEET WITH HIM.

5. COLLEAGUE COMMENTED THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO REPORTEDLY TAKING SPECIAL INTEREST IN NASUTION'S CASE. PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY BEING TOLD BY HIS ADVISORS THAT NASUTION HAS A CONSIDERABLE FOLLOWING AND COULD BE A POLITICAL THREAT. PRESIDENT IS SAID TO BE PERSONALLY ANGRY AT NASUTION STEMMING FROM 1967 BREACH BETWEEN THEM (FOLLOWING PREVIOUS CLOSE ASSOCIATION) OVER NASUTION'S CONFIDENTIAL

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CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT AND GOI LEGAL PROCEDURES. NASUTION'S FRIENDS IN JAKARTA CURRENTLY ENDEAVORING, WITH NASUTION'S BLESSING, TO CONVINCE PRESIDENT THAT NASUTION FEELS NO PERSONAL ANIMOSITY TOWARD PRESIDENT AND HAS NO POLITICAL AMBITIONS.

6. COMMENT: THIS IS OUR FIRST INDICATION THAT NASUTION WILLING CONSIDER BACKING AWAY FROM CONFRONTATION IN

MANNER WHICH SUFFICIENTLY FACE-SAVING TO GOI.
NEWSOM

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